

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Favorable reconsideration of this application as presently amended and in light of the following discussion is respectfully requested. Claims 1, 2 and 5-7 are presently active in this case, Claim 4 is canceled by way of the present Amendment.

In the outstanding Official Action, Claims 3 and 4 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by JP 10260521 to Miyano and Claims 1, 2, and 5-7 were allowed.

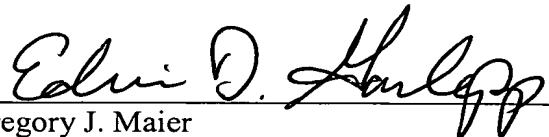
First, Applicants wish to thank Examiner Parker for allowance of Claims 1, 2, and 5-7. In this regard, Applicants note that Claim 7 was not explicitly indicated as allowed in the Office Action Summary. However, as the Office Action rejects only Claims 3 and 4, and Claim 7 includes limitations similar to the claims explicitly allowed, Applicants assume that the Examiner intended to allow Claim 7.

With regard to the rejection of Claims 3 and 4, in order to expedite issuance of a patent in this case, these claims have now been canceled and therefore the rejection is moot.

Consequently, in view of the present amendment, no further issues are believed to be outstanding in the present application and the present application is believed to be in condition for formal allowance. An early and favorable action is therefore respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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